

**Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission**

ITEM

6

DECISION

TOPIC

FY2008 Low-Head Dam Safety Cost-share Program

The Iowa General Assembly in 2007 established a fund for promotion of low-head dam safety. The low-head dam safety cost-share program awards grants to support signage, dam removal, and dam modification for the benefits of safety and aquatic species including game fish. The Commission has adopted a final rule to implement this program. The Department received ten eligible applications requesting a total of \$378,708. For fiscal year 2008, \$200,000 is available to award. The recommended state fiscal year 2008 awards, totaling \$200,000, as determined by scoring committee members including three Department staff and two Iowa citizens, are as follows:

Project Name	Applicant	DNR Funding Recom- mended	Project Total	Rank	Description
Mon Maq Dam Feasibility Study	Jones CCB	\$20,000	\$300,000	1	Provides cost-share to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers funded removal or safety/fish passage modification study on the Maquoketa River near Monticello.
Vernon Springs Dam Fish Passage Structure	Howard CCB	\$42,000	\$123,000	2	Constructs a rock-arch rapids at a 20:1 slope below an existing dam and mill pond for safety/fish passage on the Turkey River near Cresco.
2008 Fleur Drive Low Head Dam Safety	Des Moines Water Works	\$18,000	\$36,944	3	Establishes signage and portages around a rock dam and a low-head dam on the Raccoon River in Des Moines, studies improved safety and recreation at the rock dam.

Mon Maq Dam Access and Portage	Jones CCB	\$35,315	\$205,290	4	Constructs a portage trail with corresponding landings and launches upstream and downstream of Mon-Maq Dam.
Charles City Riverfront Project -- small projects	City of Charles City	\$12,000	\$24,000	5	Studies conversion of a dam into a whitewater play and fish passage facility on the Cedar River.
North Hydroelectric Low-Head Dam Engineering Feasibility Study	City of Fort Dodge	\$20,000	\$40,000	6	Studies removal or safety/fish passage modification at the North Hydroelectric Dam on the Des Moines River.
Cedar River Water Trail-Portage Construction	City of Waterloo	\$50,000	\$227,027	7	Constructs portage trail, landing/launches in urban area along retaining walls around two dams.
North Hydroelectric Low-Head Dam Signage	City of Fort Dodge	\$2,685	\$5,370	8	Provides warning signage and portage options for Hydroelectric Dam.

The Department recommends entering into grant agreements with the above-mentioned parties to accomplish the projects identified in their respective applications.

The lowest-ranked projects include Charles City Riverfront Project – Medium Application (\$50,000), and Charles City Riverfront Project – Large Application (\$128,708). In the event any of the ten approved projects listed above are not able to utilize all or part of the funding awarded, the Department requests that the Commission approve entering into an agreement to fund all or a portion of these lower-ranked projects.

Ken Herring, Administrator
Conservation and Recreation Division
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